

DOE Weekly Field Memo – June 10, 2009

From the Department of Education:

- IDEA-B, Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Election Eligibility Clarification
- Title IID ARRA/Federal Grant Applications
Report Card for Special Education Students in DCF Custody
- Student Support Team Newsletter – May 2009 – Omitted Section
- State Board Monthly Report – May 2009

From the Agency of Natural Resources:

- School Bus Replacement Reimbursement Opportunity

IDEA-B, Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Election Eligibility Clarification

Audience: Administrators

In the recent VSA/VCSEA spring conference some questions came up during the CEC presentation on ARRA around electing to use the option to reduce maintenance of effort in expending IDEA-B funds. The VTDOE ARRA Coordinator and Finance office offer this clarification to assist you in your planning and decision making:

1. If you spend the same amount or more out of State and Local funds in FY2010 as in FY2009, you have met MOE requirements and this does not apply.
2. If you spend less in State and Local funds in FY2010 than in FY2009 then your SU must:
 - a. Document allowable exceptions to non-supplanting rules as outlined in the attached flowchart, and/or;
 - b. If your SU is also designated as having “met requirements” as defined by the most recent State to Local determinations as required by IDEA, you may elect to pursue an MOE adjustment as defined in the attached flowchart.

For more information, visit http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/recovery_act.html#flowchart.

Contact: Rae Ann Knopf, ARRA Coordinator, at (802) 828-0555 or rae.knopf@state.vt.us.

Title IID ARRA/Federal Grant Applications

Audience: All

Use this link to view grant applications specific to the stimulus or ARRA funding that the department receives from Title IID. These grants are available to a range of entities from classroom teachers to groups working with statewide audiences. Grants will be posted as they come available over the next 3-4 months. Visit http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/recovery_act.html#grants.

Contact: Peter Drescher, Education Technology Coordinator, at (802) 828-5149 or peter.drescher@state.vt.us.

IDEA-B Basic and Pre-School Flow Through Application Forms for Regular Grant Funds and ARRA Funds for FY 2010

Audience: Special Education Administrators, Superintendents

View the forms and information needed to apply for FY-2010 IDEA-B Basic and Pre-School Flow Through grants. This includes both the regular grant funds and the funds made available for IDEA-B under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Visit:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/recovery_act.html#leap.

Contact: Karin Edwards at (802) 828-5118 or Karin.edwards@state.vt.us.

Report Card for Special Education Students in DCF Custody

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, Educators

We need your help in support of Vermont DCF Family Services. Policy 151; Educational Issues for Children in Custody, states: “To assist in ensuring the stability of educational services for children in DCF custody, DCF workers are now required to obtain report cards and attendance information for all children in DCF custody.”

We are requesting that schools provide copies of the final report card for each student in custody who is either in special education, or being evaluated for special education, as soon as possible after the current school year. Visit

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_interagency/surrogate_parent.html#report_card for more information.

Contact: Mike Mulcahy at (802) 828-5108 or mike.mulcahy@state.vt.us

Student Support Team Newsletter – May 2009 - Omitted Section Added Regarding “What About Summer School?”

Audience: Principals, Superintendents, Special Education Administrators

The May 2009 Student Support Team Newsletter article “What about Summer School?”, written by Joan H. Larsen, was omitted. View the update at

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_sped.html#newsletter.

Contact: Sabine Baldwin at (802) 828-0183 or sabine.baldwin@state.vt.us or Joan Larsen at (802) 828-5120, joan.larsen@state.vt.us

State Board Monthly Report – May 2009

Audience: All

The State Board of Education produces a monthly report that is intended to update the public on Board activities and priorities. The report will be posted two weeks after a Board meeting and will be made available for a six-month period of time. Visit

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/board/schedule.html#monthly_reports.

Contact: Carol King at (802) 828-5101 or carol.c.king@state.vt.us

From the Agency of Natural Resources:

School Bus Replacement Reimbursement Opportunity

Audience: Superintendents, Business Managers, Facility and Transportation Directors, School Board Chairs

Upgrade your bus fleet! The Agency of Natural Resources is offering a unique opportunity to accelerate the replacement of older school buses. Funds available through ARRA are making it possible for up to 50 percent of the costs to be reimbursed. The objective of the program is to retire more heavily-polluting vehicles and replace them with new school buses, which have much cleaner emissions. For program details, go to:

<http://www.anr.state.vt.us/air/mobilesources/htm/schoolbusreplacement.htm>

For questions about the program, including how it can work for districts which contract out transportation services, please contact david.love@state.vt.us.

Weekly Field Memo is Online!

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html. Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at:

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.